

ELECTION

The Examiner issued an election requirement pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 121 requiring the Applicants to elect a single, disclosed group of claims for prosecution on the merits. Applicants respectfully traverse this election requirement as improper, but provisionally elect Group I in order to advance the prosecution for this case.

REMARKS

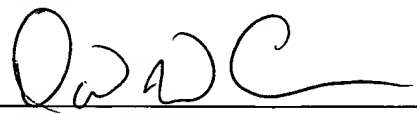
Claims 1 through 23 are now pending in the present application. Applicants' election requires examination of claims 1-15. However, Applicants believe that an examination of all of the claims would not impose an undue burden on the Examiner. Applicants therefore respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the election requirement.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable and is now in condition for allowance. Applicants request consideration of the application and allowance of the claims. If there are any outstanding issues that the Examiner feels may be resolved by way of a telephone conference, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact David W. Carstens at 972.367.2001.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional payments that may be due for additional claims to Deposit Account 50-0392.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
David W. Carstens
Registration No. 34,134
Attorney for Applicants

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CARSTENS & CAHOON, LLP
P.O. Box 802334
Dallas, TX 75380
(972) 367-2001 Telephone
(972) 367-2002 Facsimile